



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/752,032	11/19/1996	FREDERICK M. BOYCE	00786/206002	6331

7590 09/30/2002

ELDORA ELLISON FLOYD, ESQUIRE  
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN, & FOX P.L.L.C.  
1100 NEW YORK AVE, N.W.  
SUITE 600  
WASHINGTON,, DC 20005-3934

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

REYNOLDS, DEBORAH J

[REDACTED] ART UNIT

[REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1632

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---------------------

EXAMINER

ART UNIT      PAPER

24

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Claims 1 and 27-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(g) as being unpatentable over the count of Interference No. 104570.

The rejection of claims 1 and 27-36 above based upon the count of Interference No. 104570, to which applicant is a party, is a provisional rejection for the purpose of resolving all remaining issues in this application. The provisional assumption that the count is prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(g) against this application may or may not be true, and the prosecution in this case will be suspended pending final determination of priority in the interference if and when no other issues remain.

Therefore, the outcome of Interference No. 104570 has a material bearing on the patentability of the claims in this application. Prosecution of this application remains SUSPENDED pending a final decision in the interference, or 6 months, whichever is sooner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deborah Reynolds whose telephone number is (703) 305-4051. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 7:05 a.m. EST to 4:05 p.m. EST.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

John Doll  
Director  
Technology Center 1600

Deborah J. Reynolds  
SPE  
Art Unit: 1632